

World Mission News

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Ecuador: 50 years ago, 5 US missionaries were murdered by the Waodanis, 'stone age' people of Ecuador's Amazon jungle. Many of the families of these missionaries not only forgave them but have continued to bring the gospel to them. Today the Waodanis have grown from 600 in 1958 to about 2,000. 80% of them have heard the gospel and 40% profess faith in Christ. In fact, one of the murderers, presumed to be in the 70s, is using his newly learnt skill of dentistry to spread the gospel to other tribes and even to people in far away India.

<Christianity Today, January/06>

Persecution: In 2005 there was in the world an increase in persecution of Christians. An estimated 200 million suffered interrogation, arrest and even death, with another 400 million facing discrimination and alienation. North Korea topped the list of nations with most severe persecution. The estimated 400,000 Christians in that country faced daily persecution including torture in prison camps. In little nation Eritrea of East Africa, 26 pastors and 1,700 evangelicals are in prison some tortured by police.

<Assist News Service, www.assistnews.net, 12/19/05>

India: The majority of Christians in India are Dalits, the untouchables, who suffer persecution and discrimination the most. But they cooperate with missionaries to reach the professional and business people by mailing them Bibles and calling them by phone. When these people come together, they are discipled by native pastors and go back to start house churches. And in the wake of 16,000 lost to the tsunami along the southern coast, one Christian agency has some 15,000 in their job skill and literacy classes. The living gospel witness has led to several dozens of new churches expecting upwards of 5,000 baptisms.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 1/2/06>

Indonesia: Moslem extremists are waging a terror campaign against Christians of central Sulawesi and nearby Maluku Islands, Indonesia. Since 2000 they have killed thousands, 9,000 between 1999 and 2002 in Maluku alone. On the other hand, the Christian relief efforts in the hardest hit Aceh province by the tsunami has created a 'halo effect' boosting the opinion of Christians in the nation. National Christians are participating in the rebuilding work and reaching the hitherto most hard-hearted Muslims with gospel for the first time.

<Christianity Today, January/06>

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 12/27/05>

Pakistan: While Christians in Pakistan suffer much persecution, the earthquake last fall not only killed 84,000 but has shaken many hearts in the quake zone in particular from the bondage of Islam and shown them God's love through Christian relief efforts. Some hard-line Muslims there open their mosques to the gospel. One mullah made sure children did not leave without copies of gospel storybooks. Some

told relief workers that they were wrong about Christians in the past.

<Voice of the Martyrs, www.persecution.com, 12/23/05>

Satellite TV: Last Christmas and New Year season, the SAT-7 satellite TV with 6 million regular viewers in the Arab world alone, mainly Middle East and North Africa, aired 23 different programs telling not only the Christmas story but also how Christ is at work today. SAT-7 is important, as number of Christians in Middle East has dropped from 20% of the population in 1900 to less than 5% today. It is even less and shrinking in Holy Land. Launched in 1996 broadcasting one hour a week, the network had grown to 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week in March 2004. With children's, teaching, talk shows, music, drama, etc, all are Arab program of Christian message created by Arabs.

<Assist News Service, www.assistnews.net, 12/8/05>

Nicaragua: Bible Pathway Ministries distributed Bibles in Nicaraguan public schools last year and share the hope in Christ with 8,000 students. 6,474 of them received Christ as their Lord. They plan to reach 24,000 students this year and help the new Christians grow.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 12/14/05>

Cameroon: A group of Americans traveled to a Cameroon town and met with the village chief to help find a place to show the 'Jesus' film. The chief suggested a spot right outside a local mosque. The mosque prayer leader got so excited he closed the mosque and watched the film. That resulted in more than 400 trusting Christ that very night outside the mosque.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 12/7/05>

Iran: The new president of Iran is very hard core and has been cracking down on the Christians as so many people become Christians, so said an American evangelist who beams Christian TV programs into the nation. He said also that the rules they placed upon the young people turn them off to Islam, make them hunger for something else and more receptive to the gospel. Meanwhile, 850 plus Christians met last July in Holland for the International Farsi Speaking Christian Conference. Their aim was to inform, prepare and mobilize Farsi speaking Christians for the imminent harvest in Iran, Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 12/12/05>

<Assist News Service, www.assistnews.net, 12/5/05>

Kazakhstan: Kazakhstan continues to pass laws restricting religious freedom. But it did not stop Global Advance from holding their Front-line Shepherd's Conference for nearly 2,000 pastors. Since 1990, they have trained 300,000 pastors many of them are committed to plant at least one new church each year some cross-culturally.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 12/7/05>